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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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SUGAR
FS 2-64
March 1964

SUGAR STOCKS

REDUCED IN 1962-63

Sugar stocks in 45 selected countries totaled 5.8 million short tons at the beginning of the 1963-64 season. This compares with beginning stocks of 8 million tons a year earlier and the 1955-59 average of 5.9 million tons. These figures do not include invisible stocks which in the last year have become quite large in a number of countries, including the United States.

Current information indicates that further drawdown in carryovers in 1963-64 is unlikely and that there may be some improvement in stocks. Aggregate production for the group of countries this year, 39.2 million tons, is up 3.6 million tons from 1962-63. World consumption in 1963-64 is definitely being limited by higher prices.

Countries included in this study account for a substantial part of production in the "Free World" and for about two-thirds of total world production of centrifugal sugar. The study does not, however, include countries in the Sino-Soviet Bloc, including Cuba.

The decline in stocks in 1961-62 and 1962-63 makes these the only two years since 1956-57 in which world consumption has exceeded production. There had been a substantial buildup in stocks until the beginning of the 1961-62 season. Many countries had even lowered their 1961-62 sugar production targets because of burdensome stocks. The further reduction in 1962-63 world sugar output resulted from bad weather in a number of major producing countries.

This circular contains more detailed information than the summary of similar title published in the World Agricultural Production and Trade Statistical Report of February 1964.

Stock reductions during 1962-63 for the countries covered by this study were not confined to any particular area, except that India accounted for nearly a million of the 2.2-million-ton total decline. The Indian Government has taken steps to increase production significantly this year.

It should be noted that the estimates in this study relate to carryover stocks at the beginning of each country's season, rather than the quantities on hand at any given date for all countries. They, therefore, nearly always reflect the low points in stocks for a year for the individual countries. For the convenience of users, the month on which the season begins, for each country in the study, is shown in the table.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Stocks beginning of grinding season, in 45 selected countries average 1955-56 through 1959-60, annual 1960-61 through 1963-64

Country	Date 1/	Sugar-making season				
		Average 1955-56 through 1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64 2/
		1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
Colombia	May 1	46	41	80	41	33
Indonesia	May 1	30	54	37	28	30
Argentina	June 1	3/ 95	44	386	97	61
Australia	June 1	168	225	222	154	184
Brazil	June 1	386	673	426	665	314
Fiji Islands	June 1	7	65	6	6	6
Mauritius	June 1	4	16	4	7	7
South Africa, Republic of	June 1	64	193	235	255	230
Ecuador	July 1	3/ 32	13	43	52	17
Spain	July 1	130	223	222	227	50
British Guiana	August 1	9	12	10	3	3
Finland	August 1	41	50	49	53	51
Italy	August 1	278	755	494	203	162
Turkey	August 1	86	184	165	204	99
Canada	September 1	73	66	87	87	116
United Kingdom	September 1	638	789	756	676	560
Venezuela	September 1	71	66	72	80	67
Austria	October 1	87	117	98	36	36
Belgium	October 1	25	20	39	60	15
Costa Rica	October 1	11	10	11	10	8
Denmark	October 1	44	92	143	92	25
France	October 1	128	223	838	703	314
Germany, West	October 1	283	679	610	353	234
Iran	October 1	225	335	318	413	413
Ireland	October 1	29	54	60	61	57
Japan	October 1	99	170	153	193	183
Netherlands	October 1	77	72	174	144	86
Philippines	October 1	155	345	139	193	293
Sweden	October 1	135	115	165	170	109
U.S. and Insular Areas	October 1	1,230	1,275	1,160	1,075	1,260
El Salvador	November 1	6	4	2	7	4
Guatemala	November 1	6	2	3	5	6
India	November 1	494	607	1,326	1,131	139
Mexico	November 1	326	555	341	146	218
Taiwan	November 1	120	110	103	123	125
Thailand	November 1	14	44	88	85	46
Dominican Republic	December 1	102	125	103	55	55
Haiti	January 1	4	8	6	5	1
Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	January 1	20	29	32	18	23
Nicaragua	January 1	3/ 4	8	6	4	2
Peru	January 1	111	124	43	45	45
West Indies, Federation of	January 1	16	27	17	11	45
Chile	April 1	14	21	37	51	64
Total		5,923	8,640	9,309	8,027	5,796

1/ All stock carryover dates, except for January and April 1, apply to the first year mentioned at the head of each column. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 5-year average.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research and related information.

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